

Message Text

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13

ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 SP-02 INR-10 MC-02 RSC-01 DRC-01

L-02 /029 W

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R 110951Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3192

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 6290

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, TW

SUBJECT: ROC THIRD COUNTRY AMMO SALES

REF: A) STATE 213951; B) MANILA 11906

1. MAAG HAS BEEN TOLD INFORMALLY BY MND THAT PHILIPPINES HAS REDUCED 105MM AMMO PURCHASE OFFER FROM 10,000 TO 3,000 ROUNDS. IN ADDITION TO GOP DESIRE OPEN ALTERNATE LINE OF SUPPLY, THIS MAY CONSTITUTE GOP FACE-SAVING EFFORT ON BEHALF OF GROC. EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS USG APPROVL OF THIS NOMINAL SALE. (WE WOULD ALSO SUPPORT SALE OF 10,000 ROUNDS IF ROC/FPHIL FORMAL REQUEST REMAINS AT THAT LEVEL, AND WE RECOMMEND DEPT. APPROVE SALE OF 10,000 ROUNDS ON CONTINGENCY BASIS.) CONSIDERING EXTREMELY DIFFICULT CURRENT TRANSITION PERIOD IN ROC/PHILIPPINE RELATIONS, WE CONSIDER THIS MOST INOPPORTUNE TIME FOR US TO BE CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE.

2. WE AGREE WITH DEPT'S RATIONALE ON SMALL ARMS POWDER (PARA 1 REF A) AND RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF SALE TO PHILIPPINES.

3. ROC HAS RECENTLY PROVIDED FIFTY 155 MM ARTILLERY
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ROUNDS TO SINGAPORE FOR TEST PURPOSES, AND POSSIBLE

QUANTITY SALE FOR GOS IS STILL IN TALKING STAGE. SINGAPORE SALE IS LESS IMPORTANT, IN CURRENT POLITICAL TERMS, TO THE ROC THAN SALES TO PHILIPPINES. IN LONGER TERM, HOWEVER, SAME CONSIDERATIONS APPLY TO SALES TO BOTH GOP AND GOS, I.E. ROC NEED TO MAINTAIN AND DEVELOP COMMERCIAL AND OTHER RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES IN ABSENCE OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

4. WITH REFERENCE QUESTION PARA 3 REF A, MAAG HAS VERY RECENTLY RECEIVED LETTER FROM COMBINED SERVICE FORCES (CSF) WHICH TAKES STRONG EXCEPTION TO CONCEPT OF ROYALTIES AND RESIDUAL RIGHTS, AND PROPOSES A ONE-TIME PURCHASE (FOR A NOMINAL FIGURE) OF RESIDUAL RIGHTS TO MAP-FURNISHED MACHINERY ON CSF ARSENAL PRODUCTION LINES. MAAG IS OUTLINING CSF PROPOSAL IN A MESSAGE WHICH STATE WILL RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION. UNGER

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Message Attributes

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